

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 INSE-00 VO-03

/038 R

DRAFTED BY S/R:ORM:JMCHALE:AVR

APPROVED BY S/R:LAWIESNER

NEA/ARN - M. MAUGHAN

NEA/IRN - B. MORTON

INS - T. BROBSON

VO - J. ARIAS

ORM - C. PAPPAS

ORM - L. DAWSON

S/R - E. GREEN

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P R 022111Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF,IR, IZ

SUBJECT: KURDISH REFUGEES FROM IRAQ

REF: TEHRAN'S 2677; DEPT. 060263; BEIRUT'S 3674

KUWAIT - POUCH BAGHDAD

ROME FOR INS

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES RECENT REPORTS AND COMMENTS  
FROM POSTS CONCERNING KURDISH REFUGEES. THESE HAVE BEEN  
TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION OF THIS  
PROBLEM.

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2. DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO CONSULTED WITH UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE

NEW YORK ON GENERAL PROBLEM OF KURDISH REFUGEES. DURING THESE DISCUSSIONS THE SUBJECT OF UNHCR ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL PROGRAM IN IRAN FOR THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT WAS RAISED. ACCORDING UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE, IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT UNHCR WILL INITIATE SPECIAL PROGRAM IN IRAN FOR RESETTLEMENT AND, IN FACT, UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE HAS INFORMED LEADERSHIP OF KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN NEW YORK THAT HE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE MISTAKE TO ENCOURAGE MIGRATION OF KURDS FROM IRAN.

3. INITIAL REACTION OF IMMIGRATION SERVICE DURING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AT CENTRAL OFFICE WAS RELUCTANCE TO CONSIDER DETAIL OF INS OFFICER TO TEHRAN FOR PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING CONDITIONAL ENTRY APPLICATIONS FROM KURDISH REFUGEES. BASIS OF RELUCTANCE IS SHORTAGE OF CONDITIONAL ENTRY NUMBERS AND OVEREXTENDED PERSONNEL SITUATION WITHIN INS.

4. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM IN IRAN WOULD PROBABLY ENCOURAGE LARGER NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR RESETTLEMENT IN US THAN COULD BE ACCOMMODATED THROUGH CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROCEDURE.

5. PRESENT ALTERNATIVES FOR THOSE KURDS WHO INQUIRE ARE THEREFORE LIMITED TO IMMIGRANT VISAS OR APPLICATIONS FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY AT POSTS WHERE INS FACILITIES EXIST.

6. FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON CONDITIONAL ENTRY UNDER SECTION 203(A)(7) INA IS FURNISHED FOR EMBASSY'S GUIDANCE. KURDISH REFUGEES ARE STATUTORILY ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY. APPLICANTS MUST MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF INA WITH EXCEPTION OF SECTION 212(A)(14). APPLICATIONS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO OFFICERS OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE AT ATHENS, ROME, VIENNA AND FRANKFURT. DECISION ON ISSUANCE IS OF COURSE MATTER FOR INS. AN IMMIGRATION OFFICER PERIODICALLY VISITS BEIRUT. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH AMEMBASSY BEIRUT THAT EXISTING BACKLOG THERE IS SUCH THAT KURDS SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM APPLYING AT BEIRUT. DEPARTMENT

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RECOGNIZES MOST KURDS WILL ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, VISAS TO ENTER COUNTRY WHERE APPLICATION CAN BE SUBMITTED AS WELL AS FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION.

7. REPLIES TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF TEHRAN'S 2677 FOLLOW:

A. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES NO DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM USG CAN BE PROVIDED FOR TRAVEL FROM TEHRAN TO POST OF APPLICATION.

B. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES LOCATED IN CITIES WHERE INS FACILITIES EXIST MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY CARE AND MAINTENANCE FOR REFUGEES AWAITING RESETTLEMENT.

C. PROCESSING TIME WHICH IS RELATIVELY LENGTHY AT ALL POSTS VARIES ACCORDING TO BACKLOGS EXISTING AT POSTS AND LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO PROCESS INDIVIDUAL CASES. ESTIMATED WAITING PERIOD AT EUROPEAN POSTS IS MUCH SHORTER THAN THAT AT BEIRUT.

D. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES MAY BE ABLE TO ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION LOANS FOR ONWARD TRAVEL FROM APPLICATION POST TO US.

E. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTIFY EMBASSY IF SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS ON PROCEDURES ARE MADE IN FUTURE.

8. PLEASE KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SITUATION AND NUMBERS OF INQUIRIES RECEIVED. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KURDS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT  
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**Draft Date:** 02 APR 1975  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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